Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Tuesday, 21 August 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Queensland Premier's Literary Awards

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.47 am): The short list for the 2007 Premier's Queensland Literary Awards is a fascinating mix of proven masters, emerging writers and great thinkers. Once again, the judges are faced with some incredibly difficult choices as they try to select winners for the 14 award categories. The Queensland Premier's Literary Awards offer the most prize money of any national literary awards programs in Australia, with winners sharing a total of $225,000. The short list for the Fiction Book Award shows just how tough the judge's job will be and I do not envy them their task. I seek leave to incorporate the remainder of my ministerial statement and the short list in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

How will they separate the work of David Malouf for Every Move You Make; Professor Janette Turner Hospital for Orpheus Lost; Andrew McGahan for Underground; and Alexis Wright for Carpentaria.

And it is a similar story in almost every category.

The shortlisted writers represent the depth of literary talent in Australia and the high calibre of work that is being produced across a range of literary endeavours and genres.

The Queensland Premier's Literary Awards nurture the writing craft and ensure literary talent in Australia is recognised, rewarded and celebrated.

I congratulate the shortlisted writers and look forward to announcing the winners in September.

Unpublished Indigenous Writer—The David Unaipon Award

Elizabeth Eileen Hodgson for Skin Paintings
Jeanine Leane for Dark Secrets and Solid Wisdom
Lorraine McGee-Sippel for Toots
Nicole Louise Watson for Return of the Clever Man

Poetry Collection—Arts Queensland Judith Wright Calanthe Award

Robert Adamson for The Goldfinches of Baghdad (Flood Editions)
Dr Laurie Duggan for The Passenger (University of Queensland Press)
Emeritus Professor Tom Shapcott for City of Empty Rooms (Salt Publishing)
Petra White for The Incoming Tide (John Leonard Press)

Australian Short Story Collection—Arts Queensland Steele Rudd Award

Cate Kennedy for Dark Roots (Scribe)
Margo Lanagan for Red Spikes (Allen & Unwin)
David Malouf for Every Move You Make (Random House UK)
Ryan O'Neill for A Famine in Newcastle (Ginninderra Press)

Film Script—Pacific Film and Television Commission Award

Joel Anderson for Lake Mungo (Mungo Productions Pty Ltd)
Shayne Armstrong, Shane P Krause and John Hewitt for Acolytes (Stewart & Wall Entertainment)
Brendan Cowell and Anthony Hayes for Ten Empty (Yeah Right Pty Ltd)
Peter Duncan for Unfinished Sky (New Holland Productions)
Chris Thompson for The Tumbler (Mondayitis / Ztudio)

Television Script—QUT Creative Industries Award

Michelle Offen for East West 101 Episode 5 "Haunted by the Past" (Knapman Wyld Television)
Fiona Seres for Episode 8 "Dangerous" (Southern Star Entertainment)
Sue Smith for Bastard Boys (Flying Cabbage Productions)
Keith Thompson for Lockie Leonard Human Torpedo: Episode 26 "Joy to the World" (RB Films)

Non-Fiction Book Award

Professor Tom Griffiths for Slicing the Silence: Voyaging to Antarctica (New South / UNSW Press)
Robert Hughes for Things I Didn't Know (Random House Australia)
Chris Masters for Jonestown (Allen & Unwin)

Science Writer—Department of State Development Award

Dr Stephen Juan for The Odd Body 3 (HarperCollins Publishers Australia)
Mike Morwood and Penny Van Oosterzee for The Discovery of the Hobbit (Random House Australia)
Peter Martin for Killing Us Softly—Australia's Green Stalkers (CRC for Australian Weed Management)
Dr Richard Smith for Crude (ABC Television)

History Book Award

Christopher Clark for Iron Kingdom (Allen Lane, Penguin Books)
Ken Inglis for Whose ABC? The Australian Broadcasting Commission 1983-2006 (Blake Inc)
Dr Philip Jones for Ochre and Rust: Artefacts and Encounters on Australian Frontiers (Wakefield Press Pty Ltd)

Literary or Media Work Advancing Public Debate—The Harry Williams Award

Professor Frank Brennan for Acting on Conscience: How can we responsibly mix law religion and politics (University of Queensland Press)
Richard Flanagan for Gunns—Out of Control (The Monthly)
Jonathan Holmes for What Price Global Warming—Earth, Wind Fire (4 Corners ABC Television)
Chris Masters for Jonestown (Allen & Unwin)
Noel Pearson for Whiteguilt, Victimhood and the Quest for a Radical Centre (Griffith University and ABC Books)

Children's Book—The Dymocks Literacy Foundation

Catherine Bateson for Being Bee (University of Queensland Press)
Pat Flynn for The Tuckshop Kid (University of Queensland Press)
Glenda Millard and Dr Gaye Chapman for Kaito's Cloth (Scholastic Australia)
Glenda Millard for Layla Queen of Hearts (ABC Books)

Young Adult Book Award

Judith Clarke for One Whole and Perfect Day (Allen & Unwin)
Melina Marchetta for On the Jellicoe Road (Penguin Group Australia)
David Metzenthen for Black Water (Penguin Group Australia)
Shaun Tan for The Arrival (Hachette Livre Australia)

Drama Script (Stage) Award

Stephen Carleton for Constance Drinkwater and the Final Days of Somerset (Queensland Theatre Company)
Stephen Carleton for The Narcissist (La Boite Theatre Company)
Campion Decent for Embers (HotHouse Theatre and Sydney Theatre Company)
Kit Lazaroo for Asylum (La Mama Theatre)
Tommy Murphy for Holding the Man (Griffin Theatre Company and Sydney Opera House)

Fiction Book Award

David Malouf for Every Move You Make (Random House UK)
Andrew McGahan for Underground (Allen & Unwin)
Professor Janette Turner Hospital for Orpheus Lost (HarperCollins Publishers Australia)
Alexis Wright for Carpentaria (Giramondo Publishing)

Emerging Queensland Author—Manuscript Award

Ian Commins for Life in the Bus Lane
Krissy Kneen for Paper Dolls, Holding Hands
Lee McGowan for Some Tartan Hyde.